Understanding Love

Mark 12:30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this *is* the first commandment. And the second *is* like, *namely* this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

Love is found in the bible in 281 verses.

Definition of love from the Greek*;*

G25 ἀγαπάω - Perhaps from (much; or compare [H5689]); to love (in a social or moral sense). Compare G5368. G5368 From G5384; to be a friend to (fond of [an individual or an object]), that is, have affection for (denoting personal attachment, as a matter of sentiment or feeling; while G25 is wider, embracing especially the judgment and the deliberate assent of the will as a matter of principle, duty and propriety: the two thus stand related very much as G2309 and G1014, or as G2372 and G3563 respectively; the former being chiefly of the heart and the latter of the head).

Definition from the English*; Affection based on admiration, benevolence or common interests. unselfish loyal concern for the good of another: such as the fatherly concern of God for humankind, brotherly concern for others, a person's adoration of God.*

To be benevolent*; Compassionate, respectful, understanding, sympathetic, kind, friendly, nice, gentle, gracious, merciful, thoughtful, good, considerate, warmhearted, pleasant, charitable, noble, neighborly, amicable.*

Opposition to love*; Hate, despise, loathe, detest, minimize, abandon, neglect, put down, belittle, bad-mouth, write-off.*

Opposition to benevolent; *Cruel, vicious, savage, brutal, heartless, unsympathetic, merciless, thoughtless, uncaring, hard-hearted, insensitive, cold-blooded, mean, spiteful, nasty, unsentimental.*

Pro 10:12 Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins.

Eph 3:17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

1Peter 3:8-11 Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.

NOTE: Charity, which is found only in the New Testament, is referenced in 24 verses. The Greek definition of charity is G25 ἀγαπάω, which is the above definition for love.

See Charity verses; (1Co 8:1, 13:1-4, 13:8, 13:13, 14:1, 16:14, Col 3:14, 1Th 3:6, 2Th 1:3, 1Ti 1:5, 2:15, 4:12, 2Ti 2:22, 3:10, Titus 2:2, 1Peter 4:8, 5:14, 2Peter 1:7, 3John 1:6, Jude 1:12, Rev 2:19)

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